

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 11, 2012

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, S. Marr, G. Pohorely, L. Ferguson
Absent:

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the "Open Public Meetings Act" read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Monday, December 11, 2012. A Motion was made by S. Marr and seconded by L. Ferguson that the minutes be approved for the meetings of November 14, 2012.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Quote for the removal a Maple at 35 West Stewart Street- Peterson & Sons Tree Service can do the tree and stump removal for \$1,200.00. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the Commission use this vendor to do the necessary maintenance at this location.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

2. Remaining Balance on the 2012 Shade Tree Commission Budget- K. Halpin reported a dying tree at the corner of School Street and East Church Street. It was suggested that Peterson and Sons provide a quote for this tree prior to finishing the remaining maintenance in 2012. If the cost is within the remaining budget, the removal will be done this year.
3. Railroad Avenue Obstruction- G.Pohorely confirmed that the view from Park Avenue turning onto Railroad is obstructed by tree branches. This is not a town tree but the property owner should be notified about the necessary maintenance. K. Halpin suggested that the code enforcement officer contact the owner since the leaves are obstructing the view of traffic. The Borough's code enforcement officer, Mike Stone has recently retired and a replacement has not been appointed. In the meantime, the notification can be delayed until a new officer is hired. The obstruction is less obvious in the winter months

with the leaves down. The new code enforcement officer will be notified about this issue after the position is filled.

4. 2013 Green Communities Grant- The State Grant application was completed and mailed to Trenton on December 5, 2012. The Green Communities Grant awards funding which offsets the cost of hiring a forestry consultant to update the Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP). The Shade Tree Commission's current CFMP will expire in 2014.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 101 Belvidere Avenue- Owner (Michael Yates) requested permission to remove and replace a tree on his corner property. The tree borders on East Church Street along a parking lot for his business. His landscaper commented that the roots are adding pressure to a retaining wall next to the lot. Mr. Yates wanted to consult with the Commission before taking any further action. K. Halpin is confident that the owner will remove and replace the tree, using a professional service. The property owner has confirmed that a smaller species will be selected as the replacement tree.
2. January 2013 Reorganization Meeting Date - The Shade Tree Commissioners will meet on Monday, January 14, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. Marr and seconded by G. Pohorely that the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming